Legislative Business.

THE TRAVANCORE CHRISTIAN SUCCESSION REGULATION (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam : ക്രസ്ത്യൻ റഗുലേഷൻ അമൻറുമെൻറ് ബിൽ അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിന് അനുവാദം നൽകിയ ഈ സഭയോട് ഞാൻ അതീവമായി എൻെറ കൃതജ്ഞതയെ പ്രദർശിപ്പിക്കുകയാള്ളുന്നു. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ റഗുലേഷൻ അനുസരിച്ച് അച്ഛനോ അമ്മയോ നൽകിയിട്ടുള്ള ധനമല്ലാതെ മറ്റാരാലും നൽകപ്പെടുന്ന സ്ത്രീധനം സ്ത്രീധനമായി ഗണിക്കപ്പെടുന്നില്ല.

Mr. E. P. Varghese : I request the permission of the President to move that the introduction of this Bill may be postponed to the next session for the following reasons. I am also asking leave to introduce another Christian Succession Amendment Bill. It would be better if these two Bills are considered by the House together. As it now stands the Bill introduced by the Honourable Member for Todupuzha is one step in advance. So I would request the permission of the House to move that the introduction of this Bill may be postponed so that if leave to introduce is granted to my Bill also, the two Bills may be considered by the House together and it may go to the same Select Committe.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai : May I know what is the objection of the member to take this Bill alone to the Select Committee ?

Mr. E. P. Varghese : Since the two Bills cover more or less the same subject and in some respects conflict with each other it would be better if the House considers both the Bills together. That will facilitate the work also.

President : Now what the President has to know is whether the motion is permitted to be made. That, I suppose, is the usual procedure. You will have ample time to make your own observations when the motion is before the House. In the first place I should like to hear Mr. John Kattakayam.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam : കഴിഞ്ഞപ്രാവശ്യം ഞാൻ ഈ ബില്ല് കൊണ്ടുവന്ന അവസരത്തിൽ നിലവിലിരിക്കുന്ന ക്രസ്ത്യൻ റഗുലേഷനു് യാതൊരു ഭേദഗതിയും ചെയ്യേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല എന്നുള്ള മുഖവുരയോടുകൂടി മിസ്റ്റർ ഇ. പി. വർഗ്ഗീസ് എതിർക്കുകയാണു ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതു്. സ്ത്രീധനത്തെ ശാശ്വതമായി സുരക്ഷിതമാക്കണമെന്നുള്ളതാണു് ഞാൻ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുള്ള ബില്ലിൽ അടങ്ങിയിരിക്കുന്നതു്.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. M N. Paramesvaran Pillai: I rise to a point of order, can the member refer to personalities ?

Mr. J. John Kattakayam: സ്ത്രീധനമെന്നുള്ള പേർ പാലും മാറണമെന്നാണ് മിസ്റ്റർ വർഗ്ഗീസിന്റെ ബില്ലിൽ നിർദ്ദേശിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു്. അതിൽ സ്ത്രീധനത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു് ചില പ്രത്യേകവ്യവസ്ഥകളാണ് അടങ്ങിയിരിക്കുന്നതു്. ഇപ്പോൾ നിലവിലിരിക്കുന്ന ബില്ലിൽ സ്ത്രീധനം നാലിലൊന്നു് എന്നു വ്യവസ്ഥചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നതിനെ പാടെ തകടംമറിക്കത്തക്കവിധത്തിൽ മൂന്നിലൊന്നു സ്ത്രീധനം എന്നാണു് ആ ബില്ലിൽ വ്യവസ്ഥചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നതു്. ഈ സ്ഥിതിക്ക് ഈ രണ്ടുബില്ലുകൂടി ഒരുമിച്ചു് ആലോചിക്കുന്നതു് ഉചിതപ്രദമായിരിക്കുമോ എന്നു ഞാൻ ബലമായി സംശയിക്കുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ നിലവിലിരിക്കുന്ന സ്ത്രീധനത്തിൽ യാതൊരു വ്യത്യാസവും വരുത്താൻ പാടില്ലെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായമുള്ളവരും സമുദായത്തിൽ ഇല്ലാതില്ല. വ്യത്യാസം വരുത്തണമെന്നു് മദറബില്ലിൽ പറയുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ രണ്ടുബില്ലുംകൂടി ഒരുമിച്ചു് ആലോചിക്കാൻപാടില്ല.

Mr. Komilezhathu Sankaran: കൊച്ചിയിൽ നിയമം എങ്ങിനെയാണെന്നറിയാമോ?

Mr. J. John Kattakayam: കൊച്ചിയിൽപോയി അന്വേഷിച്ചു് അടുത്തതവണവരുമ്പോൾ പറയാം.

Mr Komilezhathu Sankaran: ഇങ്ങിനെ ഒരു നിയമം എവിടെയെങ്കിലും ഉണ്ടോ?

Mr. J. John Kattakayam: കൊച്ചിയിലും കോയമ്പത്തൂരിലും കോഴിക്കോട്ടും കൊല്ലത്തും ഇങ്ങിനെ നിയമം ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കാം.

President: Now the motion before the House is that the introduction of the Travancore Christian Succession Regulation (Amendment) Bill of Mr. John Kattakayam be adjourned for further consideration. That motion has either to be accepted or rejected by the House.

Mr. M N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Mr. Varghese's motion has not been seconded by anybody.

President: Is that so ?

Mr. E. P. Varghese: I ask the permission of the President to move my motion.

President: Permission is granted.

Mr. M N. Paramesvaran Pillai: I wish to add a few words on Mr. Varghese's motion. I second the motion.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. E. P. Varghese: I sought the permission of the President to move the motion because it is required under the Rules.

President: Permission has been granted.

Mr. E. P. Varghese: I move that the introduction of the Christian Succession Regulation (Amendment) Bill may be adjourned to the next session.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: (*Mavelikara and Karikapalli* cum *Kunnathur*): I second it.

President: Moved and seconded that the introduction of the Travancore Christian Succession Regulation (Amendment) Bill be adjourned.

Permission being granted members have got the right to speak.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: I wish to offer a few words in connection with this motion.

President: Merely on the motion?

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Yes. Mr. John Kattakayam has been permitted to introduce his Bill.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai: Is the member supporting Mr. John Kattakayam's Bill or Mr. Varghese's motion?

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: I am supporting Mr. Varghese's motion and opposing the introduction of Mr. John Kattakayam's Bill at this stage. Mr. Kattakayam was given leave to introduce his bill to amend the Christian Succession Regulation, II of 1092. His Bill aims to include within the definition of "Streedhanom" properties conveyed not only by parents of a woman, but also those given by her other relations, for instance, the grand-father, grand-mother, uncle and such others It also aims to give "Streedhanom" sufficient statutory protection by making it a charge on property. But from to day's agenda we find that another lawyer member of the Christian Community wants the leave of this House for introducing another (amendment) Bill. By that Bill the Honourable Member wants to completely abolish the system of dowry or streedhanom now obtaining among the Christian community and raise the status of daughter to that of a sharer in the inheritance. We are now really placed in a serious dilemma. Honourable Members of this House who belong to other communities do not know how far these Bills have the support of the Christian community for which they are meant and which of the two is more conducive to the happiness and well-being of that community. There is no doubt that these Bills are going to affect the domestic happiness and social well-being of one of the most

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai]

important communities in the State. It would, therefore, be better that the consideration of Mr. John Kattakayam's Bill is postponed till the fate of Mr. Varghese's Bill is known.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai: May I know from the member whether there is any other Bill before the House except that of Mr. John Kattakayam ?

Mr M. N. Paramesvarn Pillai : I sumbit that question does not arise in view of the permission granted by the President to Mr. Varghese to make the present motion.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai: I am asking whether there is any other Bill before the House except that of Mr. John Kattakayam ?

Mr M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : Sir, I said from to-day's agenda it could be seen that another member is also going to seek permission to introduce a Bill to amend the Christian Succession Regulation. What I wish to state in this connection is that in case if leave is also granted to Mr. Varghese to introduce his Bill there will be two Bills before the House, each diametrically opposed to the other in its principle and ambit. Such being the case it would be better to take up the consideration of these Bills simultaneously. These being also important measures affecting the happiness and social progress of a big community it would be advantageous to refer them to a joint select committee of both the Chambers so that there various provisions may be minutely and carefully examined and considered before this House is again given the opportunity to discuss the merits of the Bills in detail. It may also become necessary for such a committee to take evidence so as to ascertain the sense of the community.

Mr. S Piraviperumal Pillai: Is that not a point to be considered only if permission is given to Mr. Varghese to introduce his Bill ?

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: True. Nevertheless it is a point which we have to bear in mind.

For these reasons, Sir, I support the motion of Mr. Varghese.

President: The motion before the House is that the introduction of the Travancore Christian succession Regulation (Amendment) Bill by Mr. John Kattakayam be adjourned.

The motion is carried.

THE TRAVANCORE CHRISTIAN SUCCESSION REGULATION (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Mr. E. P. Varghese: Sir, I ask the leave of the House to introduce the Christian Succession Regulation (Amendment) Bill. The Bill proposes amendments to Sections 5, 13, and 28 of the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly